

nuggets of public interest and features about elections and county news. He won awards for his public affairs broadcasts at KWTO. Later he went to work for Senator Danforth, and in 1987 when the Greene County clerk resigned, he was appointed. Richard says Danforth was a role model with his principled leadership, openness to many viewpoints, and a devotion to his religious faith, all of which had an impact on Struckhoff's decision to seek elective office.

During his 27 years as clerk, he has seen a host of changes, but none more dramatic than the implementation of the Help America Vote Act after the 2000 presidential election. As the chief election official in Greene County, Struckhoff guided the effort to switch from more than 20 years of punch-card voting to computerized scanner machines and a statewide voter registration system. Struckhoff's small cadre of staff has overseen elections, voter registration and education, tax law, licenses, and county archives. He is seen as a role model by his colleagues, pursuing public service in place of partisan politics. Other community leaders have praised his hard work, collaboration, and good humor. That in itself is a remarkable record.

Struckhoff has been married to Micki for more than 40 years, and they have three children and a host of grandchildren. Richard spends his free time between elections on the road, seeing grandkids, singing in the band, the "Geezers," or playing music at church. In more recent months, Richard and Micki have begun traveling to shooting competitions in various locations, and they have both become good shots.

Richard is also a man of faith—deeply involved at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in the music program. He was born in St. Louis in 1952, came to Springfield in the late 1970s and graduated Missouri State University in 1988. We have been blessed by his leadership ever since.

Family, faith, music and guns: is there any doubt why we like to be around Richard Struckhoff? He is a funny guy with a charming smile and a quick wit. He is a true public servant and my friend. I know he won't be looking for things to do in retirement. His plate is full with grandkids to mold, songs to sing and guns to shoot. We have Richard Struckhoff to thank for more than 27 years of fair elections in Greene County. I hope retirement brings many rewards to Richard and his family.●

BOULDER STATION HOTEL AND CASINO

● Mr. HELLER. Madam President, I wish to recognize and congratulate Boulder Station Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas on 20 years of business and excellence. Boulder Station's dedication to providing quality service and bettering its community is commend-

able, and I am proud to recognize it here today.

Since its grand opening on August, 23, 1994, Boulder Station has been an integral part of the Las Vegas community. Boulder Station not only contributes to the Nevada economy by bringing tourists to our great State, but it also serves as a large employer of residents of Las Vegas, currently employing 1,115 Nevadans, some of whom have worked for the property since its opening day. The Boulder Station team members strive to make the entire staff feel like a family. Their level of corporate care and devotion is demonstrated through their exemplary guest service and generosity to local philanthropic causes. They believe it is both a privilege and responsibility to help build and maintain a happy and healthy community, and by giving back they strive to assist others who may simply need a helping hand.

Boulder Station has worked to help improve education in Southern Nevada as well. For 13 years, the property has partnered with Laura Dearing Elementary, an at-risk elementary school, as part of the Smart Start Program. The partnership program has five components: the school receives an annual award; a student incentive program is set up to improve an area of need; the company sponsors a recognition program for teachers and staff; team members from the Boulder Station volunteer their time to help with school events and support teachers in the classrooms; and the casino donates surplus computers and computer equipment to the partner schools. Boulder Station's commitment to bettering the community's local educational system is admirable, and I am proud Nevada is home to a business that has taken such an active role in helping our youth.

The gaming industry plays an integral role in Nevada's economy. Casinos have also generated over 100,000 jobs for Nevadans and continue to be one of the largest employers in the State. Plain and simple, the tourism and hospitality industry is the lifeblood for businesses and job creation in Nevada.

I ask my colleagues and all of my fellow Nevadans to join me in recognizing Boulder Station Hotel and Casino on 20 years of business and dedication to the Las Vegas community.●

LANDAFF, NEW HAMPSHIRE 250TH ANNIVERSARY

● Ms. AYOTTE. Madam President, I wish to honor the town of Landaff, New Hampshire, which is celebrating the 250th anniversary of its founding next month. I am proud to join citizens across the Granite State in recognizing this special milestone.

Landaff, a town in Grafton County, lies fully within the Connecticut River watershed, with the Ammonoosuc River to the northwest and the Wild Ammonoosuc River to the south. The southern half of the town is part of the magnificent White Mountain National Forest.

The town of Landaff has a rich history. It is named after the Bishop of Llandaff, chaplain to King George III. After the town's first 60 settlers failed to meet the requirements of the King's original grant, the territory was re-granted to Dartmouth College in 1770.

The college contributed to the town's development by building roads, a school and a saw mill. In 1773, however, the original owners desired a return of their land and petitioned the Governor to revoke the Dartmouth grant. The issue of the ownership of Landaff was drawn out in the courts for the next 17 years. When the American Revolution concluded, changes in the American legal system prompted the college to give the town back to the people.

Today, Landaff's population remains around 360, with the patriotism and commitment of its residents reflected in part by their longstanding record of service in defense of our Nation.

One distinguished Landaff resident, Harry Chandler, was born in Landaff in 1864 and moved to Los Angeles, CA. Mr. Chandler eventually became the editor of the Los Angeles Times, but he never forgot the little town that raised him. He was said to have offered a job at the newspaper to anyone from Landaff who showed up at his door.

Resident sage of Landaff, Moor Noyes, once made this observation about the history of the town: "Things ain't now as they use to was been and people don't do as they use to did then." Truer words have never been spoken.

Landaff has contributed much to the culture and spirit of the State of New Hampshire. I am pleased to extend my warmest regards to the people of Landaff as they celebrate the town's 250th anniversary.●

NEW HAMPSHIRE DAY TO END CHILDHOOD HOMELESSNESS

● Mrs. SHAHEEN. Madam President, today I wish to recognize the New Hampshire Day to End Childhood Homelessness. On September 4, 2014, Families in Transition, a Manchester-based nonprofit organization that has long committed itself to ending the cycle of homelessness, will be hosting this important event.

Founded in 1991, Families in Transition was born from the belief that having a home is a basic human right. The organization has since been recognized, both statewide and nationally, for its effectiveness in ending homelessness through quality, affordable housing and comprehensive services. Families in Transition focuses on addressing homelessness by facilitating familial cohesion through specialized childcare, family therapy, and positive social activities. Family and youth services at Families in Transition are a vital part of efforts to help homeless children in New Hampshire.

The New Hampshire Day to End Childhood Homelessness event will bring critical awareness and support to

these children and the work of Families in Transition.

On behalf of New Hampshire I thank Families in Transition, its staff, volunteers, and supporters for their determination to serve Granite Staters in need.●

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD E. WRIGHT

● Mrs. SHAHEEN. Madam President, I wish to honor Chief Richard E. Wright for his lifelong commitment to the New Hampshire fire service. Chief Wright retired in June after committing 70 years of his life to the safety of Granite State residents. Through seven decades, he served as a soldier, a firefighter, the fire chief for the town of Loudon, and as the chief coordinator for the Capital Area Mutual Aid Compact.

Chief Wright's service to the fire department began when he was only 11 years old. His paper route included the Central Fire Station and the fire chief's home. Soon, he became a fixture at the station, and his helpfulness earned him the unofficial title of "Errand Boy Number One."

Upon graduating from Concord High School in 1950, he worked for the Rumford Press. Then he served his country, enlisting in the U.S. Army in 1953. After a 2-year tour of duty in Germany, he returned to New Hampshire as a sergeant.

Although Chief Wright had left the Army, his life of service had only just begun. He joined the Concord Fire Department call force in 1957 and then became a full-time firefighter in 1963. Soon Chief Wright was using his skills to manage the Concord department's budget and handle administrative tasks.

Through his instinct for business and management, Chief Wright helped to create the Capital Area Mutual Aid Fire Compact in 1965. To this day, the Mutual Aid Compact enables Concord and surrounding localities to share resources to fund their fire departments efficiently, saving taxpayer dollars.

In 1970 he left full-time fire service to run his family business, Wright Communications, although he continued to serve as a volunteer firefighter in Concord for several years. Then in 1973 he was appointed chief coordinator of the Mutual Aid Compact and became full-time coordinator in 1989. In addition to this position, he worked with the Loudon Fire Department, serving as their fire chief for 12 years.

Chief Wright retired from his role as Mutual Aid Compact coordinator on June 14, 2014. Throughout his career, he has responded to fires and calls from across central New Hampshire 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. He has coordinated resources in order to address major emergencies and keep Granite State residents safe.

Chief Wright's service to New Hampshire is truly remarkable. I congratulate him on his retirement and thank him for his lifetime of dedication to our great State.●

HELENA, MONTANA SESQUICENTENNIAL

● Mr. WALSH. Madam President, I wish to recognize Helena, MT, on the occasion of its 150th birthday. Our capital city, which I am privileged to call home, continues to contribute to the State of Montana and our Nation.

Four prospectors came to Montana territory looking for gold in the 1860s, and they struck it rich when they discovered gold in the creek that now runs under Helena's main street. They named the area Last Chance Gulch. When news of the site spread, thousands of other migrants flooded the area, hoping to find success. To care for the growing mining population, shops, hotels, and saloons sprang up, and a small city began to grow.

That settlement was officially named Helena on October 30, 1864.

Unlike other mining towns, Helena prospered after the gold rush ended. Since it was near major roads and surrounded by fertile farmland, Helena continued to thrive throughout the 20th century.

Helena has been an integral part of our State since before Montana became part of the United States—the city was named the capital of Montana territory in 1875, 14 years before Montana joined the Union.

The very first special forces unit of our Nation's military was based at Fort Harrison, just outside of Helena.

Today, Helena continues to flourish. Thousands of visitors come each year to hike scenic paths, tackle nationally-rated mountain bike trails, ski the slopes in Great Divide Ski area, enjoy the view of the Sleeping Giant, and drink great local beers.

As Montana's capital, Helena is the center of the State government, and public servants continue to tackle today's tough issues and work to create a better Montana and country for all of us.

I want to congratulate Helena for its contributions to our State and our Nation. We look forward to the next 150 years being as exciting as the last.●

I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

POINT OF ORDER—S.2648

The PRESIDING OFFICER. For the information of the Senate, pursuant to section 312 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, a 306 point of order having been sustained on S. 2648, the bill was referred to the Committee on Appropriations. All amendments thereto fell and the cloture motion thereon has been rendered moot.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF JOHN FRANCIS TEFFT, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

NOMINATION OF LAURA JUNOR TO BE A PRINCIPAL DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider and vote on Calendar Nos. 968 and 868; that if any nomination is confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

VOTE ON TEFFT NOMINATION

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of John Francis Tefft, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Russian Federation?

The nomination was confirmed.

VOTE ON JUNOR NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Hearing no further debate, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Laura Junor, of Virginia, to be a Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense?

The nomination was confirmed.

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 980, 981, 982, 983, with the exception of BG Eric C. Bush, 984, 985, with the exception of COL Marta Carcana, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, and all nominations placed on the Secretary's desk in the Air Force, Army, and Navy; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212: